

All Regional Engineers

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Special Provision for Reinforcement Bars

September 30, 2005

This special provision was developed by the Bureau of Materials and Physical Research after reviewing the issues surrounding the decertification of steel producers in the 2004 construction season due to bend failures. Adopting ASTM A706 will provide steel that is weldable, has known chemical composition, improved structural properties, and is currently used in a number of states. The expected cost increase is expected to be a nominal \$0.015 per pound or less.

The special provision has been revised to make it very clear that the requirement for ASTM A 706 steel applies also to epoxy coated bars.

This special provision should be used on all contracts involving either plain or epoxy coated reinforcement.

The districts should include the BDE Check Sheet marked with the applicable special provisions for the January 20, 2006 and subsequent lettings. The Project Development and Implementation Section will include a copy in the contract.

This special provision will be available on the transfer directory September 30, 2006.

80151m

REINFORCEMENT BARS (BDE)

Effective: November 1, 2005

Revised: November 2, 2005

Revise Article 1006.10(a) of the Supplemental Specifications to read:

“(a) Reinforcement Bars. Reinforcement bars will be accepted according to the current Bureau of Materials and Physical Research Policy Memorandum, “Reinforcement Bar and Dowel Bar Plant Certification Procedure”. The Department will maintain an approved list of producers.

(1) Reinforcement Bars (Non-Coated). Reinforcement bars shall be according to ASTM A 706M (A 706), Grade 420 (60) for deformed bars and the following.

a. Chemical Composition. The chemical composition of the bars shall be according to the following table.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION		
Element ^{1/}	Heat Analysis (% maximum)	Product Analysis (% maximum)
Carbon	0.30	0.33
Manganese	1.50	1.56
Phosphorus	0.035	0.045
Sulfur	0.045	0.055
Silicon	0.50	0.55
Nickel	^{2/}	^{2/}
Chromium	^{2/}	^{2/}
Molybdenum	^{2/}	^{2/}
Copper	^{2/}	^{2/}
Titanium	^{2/}	^{2/}
Vanadium	^{2/}	^{2/}
Columbium	^{2/}	^{2/}
Aluminum	^{2/} , ^{3/}	^{2/} , ^{3/}
Tin ^{4/}	0.040	0.044

Note 1/. The bars shall not contain any traces of radioactive elements.

Note 2/. There is no composition limit but the element must be reported.

Note 3/. If aluminum is not an intentional addition to the steel for deoxidation or killing purposes, residual aluminum content need not be reported.

Note 4/. If producer bar testing indicates an elongation of 15 percent or more and passing of the bend test, the tin composition requirement may be waived.

- b. Heat Numbers. Bundles or bars at the construction site shall be marked or tagged with heat identification numbers of the bar producer.
 - c. Guided Bend Test. Bars may be subject to a guided bend test across two pins which are free to rotate, where the bending force shall be centrally applied with a fixed or rotating pin of a certain diameter as specified in Table 3 of ASTM A 706M (A 706). The dimensions and clearances of this guided bend test shall be according to ASTM E 190.
 - d. Spiral Reinforcement. Spiral reinforcement shall be deformed or plain bars conforming to the above requirements or cold-drawn steel wire conforming to AASHTO M 32.
- (2) Epoxy Coated Reinforcement Bars. Epoxy coated reinforcement bars shall be according to Article 1006.10(a)(1) and shall be epoxy coated according to AASHTO M 284M (M 284) and the following.
- a. Certification. The epoxy coating applicator shall be certified under the Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute's (CRSI) Epoxy Plant Certification Program.
 - b. Coating Thickness. The thickness of the epoxy coating shall be 0.18 to 0.30 mm (7 to 12 mils). When spiral reinforcement is coated after fabrication, the thickness of the epoxy coating shall be 0.18 to 0.50 mm (7 to 20 mils).
 - c. Cutting Reinforcement. Reinforcement bars may be sheared or sawn to length after coating, providing the end damage to the coating does not extend more than 13 mm (0.5 in.) back and the cut is patched before any visible rusting appears. Flame cutting will not be permitted."